

UNCLASSIFIED
TELEGRAM

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file SOC 14-2(A)

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TAGS:
SUBJECT:

FROM
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

CLASSIFICATION

GDS 6/13/86 (HALLMAN, WILLIAM H.) OR-P
SHUM AR
(U) HUMAN RIGHTS SUMMARY - JUNE 7-13, 1980

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO:

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release (X) Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: (X) In Part () In Full

(X) Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date 6/7/01 Declassify on Reason 2.5X1

AMB
DCM
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ECON
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ICA
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SY
CONS/REF
CHRON

BUENOS AIRES 4862

USEEC

ROME FOR VATICAN OFFICE

REF: BUENOS AIRES 4679

1. SUMMARY: RECENTLY PUBLISHED PRISON RULES WILL
PROBABLY DIMINISH DIFFERENCES IN TREATMENT OF THE THREE
CATEGORIES OF PRISONER. SEVERAL SENTENCES WERE GIVEN
FOR TERRORIST ACTS DATING FROM 1975. END SUMMARY.

2. NEW PRISON RULES.

DRAFTED BY POL:VLOAVIS POLCOUNS:WHHALLMAN:SB DRAFTING DATE 6/13/80 TEL. EXT. 278 CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: POLCOUNS:WHHALLMAN

REARANCES

POL/R:JDISTEFANO
ICA:RCROSS
DAO:COL.RPITT

DCM:MCHADLIN

UNCLASSIFIED

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OPTIONAL FORM 152(H)
(Formerly FS-413(H))
January 1975
Dept. of State

EXECUTIVE ORDER 929 OF MAY 24, 1980 SETTING NEW RULES FOR TREATMENT OF ARGENTINE POLITICAL PRISONERS. THE ORDER REPLACES THAT OF APRIL 29, 1979 WHICH AT THE TIME WAS HAILED AS CORRECTING MANY OF THE ABUSES

IN THE PRISONS BUT WHICH--WE HAVE LEARNED ONLY RECENTLY--WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ERODED WHEN ABOUT LAST JULY OR AUGUST A CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX WAS ISSUED WHICH, APPARENTLY, PERMITTED ~~RECREATION~~ ^{RE-CREATION} OF THREE CATEGORIES OF PRISONERS. THE CATEGORIES GENERALLY DESCRIBED THOSE WHO WERE TRACTABLE AND "REFORMED," THE NORMAL OR MODERATELY DIFFICULT PRISONER, AND THE "INCORRIGIBLE" IN TERMS OF PAST ASSOCIATION WITH TERRORISM AND CURRENT BEHAVIOR. FOR THE "WORST CASES" IMPROVEMENTS LIKE PERMISSION TO WORK, SPORTS, FREE-BUT-CENSORED PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE WERE VIRTUALLY RULED OUT.

3. THE NEW RULES WERE GIVEN IN RESPONSE TO THEIR COMPLAINTS

THE RULES WILL INSURE THAT EVEN WORST CASE PRISONERS ARE GIVEN ACCESS TO FACILITIES ACCORDED ANY OTHER PRISONER--ALTHOUGH PROBABLY ON A "QUANTITATIVELY REDUCED" BASIS. THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE SAID ONLY THIS WEEK, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT EVEN RAWSON PRISONERS (NEARLY ALL "WORST CASE") WOULD BE ALLOWED TO WORK AS SOON AS SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR WORKING COULD BE SENT. THESE NEW REGULATIONS TOO HOWEVER ARE BELIEVED

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[illegible]

A. RAUL ARGEMI AND MARIANO AMEDEO FERNANDEZ, WHO WERE SENTENCED TO EIGHTEEN YEARS OF PRISON FOR THE APRIL 1974 SLAYING OF JUDGE VICENTE QUIROGA. BOTH ARGEMI AND MARIANO WERE ERP MEMBERS.

B. JORGE RAMON FRANCO AND NINE OTHER ERP MEMBERS WERE SENTENCED IN RESISTENCIA. FRANCO WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN THE LEADER OF THE CHACO PROVINCE BRANCH OF THE ERP. THE TEN WERE ACCUSED OF ILLICIT ASSOCIATION, POSSESSION OF ARMS AND POSSESSION OF SUBVERSIVE LITERATURE. THEIR SENTENCES,

RANGED FROM FIVE TO TEN YEARS. TWELVE OTHERS WHO HAD BEEN TRIED ALONG WITH FRANCO ON THE SAME CHARGES WERE FOUND INNOCENT. 486

C. HECTOR MANUEL PEREZ WAS SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS BY A JUDGE IN LA PLATA. PEREZ, ALSO A MEMBER OF ERP, HAD BEEN HELD UNDER PEN SINCE SEPTEMBER 1975 AFTER TAKING PART IN A SHOOTOUT WITH POLICE.

--IN SEPARATE COURT ACTION IN SANTA FE FOURTEEN PEOPLE WERE PLACED UNDER PREVENTIVE CUSTODY. (WE BELIEVE THAT UNTIL THE CURRENT PROCESS BEGAN THEY HAD BEEN HELD AS "PEN ARE ACCUSED ONLY" PRISONERS.) THE FOURTEEN ~~HAD BEEN ACCUSED~~ OF ILLICIT ASSOCIATION, POSSESSION OF ARMS AND VIOLATING THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW. SOME OF THESE CHARGES GO BACK AS FAR AS 1970. ONE OF THE FOURTEEN, JUAN CARLOS VALLEJOS, IS ALSO ACCUSED OF THE MURDER OF MAYOR NESTOR LOPEZ.

CASTRO *Mc*